claims were amended to read on the embodiment of Fig. 13. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite simultaneously generating a first and a second annular beam of electromagnetic energy and redirecting these beams through a parabolic mirror. Applicant has also removed from claim 1 the language of "over-lapping an end of the at least one polymeric material with an end of the polymeric catheter tube thereby creating an over-lapped portion". This language has been replaced with "providing a catheter tube having a first predetermined bonding location and a second predetermined bonding location for bonding a polymeric material thereto, each bonding location separate from each other and having a polymeric material overlapping the catheter tube at the bonding location".

New claims 31-33 are added and depend upon claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's instructions for allowability. It is believed that claim 1 overcomes the earlier cited references and that those claims dependent therefrom find allowability in the allowability of claim 1. No new matter has been added with these claims. Claims 14-15, 24, and 27-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above, early notification that pending claims 1 and 31-36 are in condition for allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A process for sealing at least one polymeric material to a polymeric catheter tube, comprising the steps of:

providing a catheter tube having a first predetermined bonding location and a second predetermined bonding location for bonding a polymeric material thereto, each bonding location separate from each other and having a polymeric material overlapping the catheter tube at the bonding location;

[over-lapping an end of the at least one polymeric material with an end of the polymeric catheter tube thereby creating an over-lapped portion;]

simultaneously generating [at least one] a first and a second annular beam of electromagnetic energy from two separate energy sources, the first beam being [that is] at least partially [absorbed] absorbable at a selected energy wavelength by at least one of the polymeric material at the first bond site location and the catheter tube and the second beam being at least partially absorbable at a selected energy wavelength by at least one of the polymeric material at the second bond site location and the polymeric catheter tube [at a selected energy wavelength];

controllably directing the first annular beam of electromagnetic energy by redirecting the first beam with a parabolic mirror onto the polymeric material to concentrate the energy in [a] the first bond site location so as to at least partially melt at least one material selected from the group consisting of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube along the first bond site location and immediate regions thereof;

and controllably directing the second annular beam of electromagnetic energy by redirecting the second beam with a parabolic mirror onto the polymeric material to concentrate the energy in the second bond site location so as [on the over-lapped portion circumscribing the catheter tube] to at least partially melt at least one material selected from the group consisting of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube along the second bond site location and the immediate region thereof; and

allowing the at least [one] two partially melted materials to cool and solidify to form a fusion bond between the polymeric catheter tube and the polymeric material.